

Message Text

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EXDIS

FOR LINNEMAN S/NM AND MCNEIL, ARA

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SNAR CO
SUBJECT: NARCOTICS: PROJECTED COLOMBIAN CAMPAIGN

1. BASED ON DISCUSSIONS WITHIN CT AND WITH MINDEFENSE CAMACHO AND OTHER SENIOR COG OFFICIALS SEPTEMBER 6-7, DRAFT AGREEMENT HAS BEEN PREPARED AND COPY DELIVERED TODAY TO MINDEFENSE. WE ARE AWAITING MINISTER'S REPLY, WHICH WE EXPECT WILL BE FAVORABLE IN PRINCIPLE AND MAY INCLUDE SUGGESTIONS FOR CERTAIN CHANGES IN PROGRAM DETAIL. WE CONCLUDE THAT PROJECT FOR GUAJIRA-NORTH COAST CAMPAIGN IS NOW FIRM ENOUGH TO WARRANT NOTIFICATION TO CONGRESS FOR REPROGRAMMING OF FUNDS. (WE UNDERSTAND THAT MINDEFENSE CAMACHO WILL LATER TAKE UP PROJECT AGREEMENT WITH PRESIDENT TURBAY, BUT BELIEVE NOTIFICATION TO CONGRESS SHOULD NOT BE HELD UP AWAITING TURBAY'S REACTION AND CLEARANCE.)

2. TEXT OF DRAFT AGREEMENT HAS BEEN TELEPHONED TODAY TO S/NM. DRAFT IS PREPARED IN FORM WHICH SHOULD PERMIT ITS SUBSEQUENT USE AS DRAFT PROJECT AGREEMENT ASSUMING FUNDS CAN BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR CAMPAIGN.

3. WHILE MINDEFENSE WILL RECEIVE AND MANAGE USG COMMODITIES AND FUNDS CALLED FOR UNDER THE DRAFT AGREEMENT, GOC HAS NOT
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YET DECIDED WHICH ENTITY WILL SIGN PROJECT AGREEMENT (FORMINISTRY AND MINJUSTICE WERE MENTIONED IN SEPTEMBER 7 MEETING WITH MINDEFENSE, ATTORNEY GENERAL SERRANO AND OTHERS). AT STRONG INSISTENCE OF MINDEFENSE CAMACHO, NO EXPLICIT REFERENCE TO OPERATIONAL PLANS FOR EMPLOYMENT OF COLOMBIAN ARMED FORCES IN GUAJIRA-NORTH COAST CAMPAIGN IS INCORPORATED IN THE DRAFT AGREEMENT. HOWEVER, WE HAVE RECEIVED INFORMAL DOCUMENTATION

COVERING THESE PLANS WHICH WILL BE HAND-CARRIED TO ARA AND S/NM BY BARNEBEY AND GROOM. MINDEFENSE CAMACHO CONFIRMED IN SEPTEMBER 7 MEETING THAT THESE OPERATIONAL PLANS ARE TO BE CARRIED OUT AS PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED WITH AMBASSADOR.

4. MINDEFENSE CAMACHO ALSO STATED IN YESTERDAY'S MEETING THAT FOR COLOMBIAN DOMESTIC POLITICAL REASONS NO U.S. MILITARY PRESENCE IS PRESENTLY CONTEMPLATED PRIOR TO AND DURING GUAJIRA-NORTH COAST INTERDICTION CAMPAIGN. HOWEVER, LATE YESTERDAY, GENERAL ROBLEDO, WHO IS DESIGNATED TO COMMAND COLOMBIAN ARMY ELEMENTS IN CAMPAIGN, TOLD AMBASSADOR HE MAY RECOMMEND TO HIS SUPERIORS THAT U.S. MILITARY ADVISORS AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT BE SOUGHT.

5. AS TO PROJECTED USG FUNDING, DRAFT AGREEMENT CALLS FOR TOTAL OF \$1.7 MILLION, DIVIDED \$1.3 MILLION AS "MANDATORY" FOR FY 1978 FUNDING AND \$400,000 WHICH CAN BE POSTPONED UNTIL EARLY IN FY 1979. THE \$1.3 MILLION WOULD COMprise \$495,000 FOR COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT AND RADAR, AND \$807,000 IS "OTHER COSTS" (FUEL AND SPARE PARTS FOR GOC-SUPPLIED EQUIPMENT AND VEHICLES, RATIONS, AND MISCELLANEOUS PURCHASES). THE \$400,000 FOR FY 1979 FUNDING WOULD EXCLUSIVELY BE FOR "OTHER COSTS".

6. DRAFT AGREEMENT MAKES CLEAR THAT NO REPEAT NO COMMITMENTS WOULD BE MADE FOR USG CONTRIBUTION FOR LLANOS, SOUTHERN
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FRONTIER, OR WEST COAST CAMPAIGNS (OR FOR EXTENTION OF GUAJIRA-NORTH COAST CAMPAIGN BEYOND TARGETED 180-DAY DURATION) UNTIL RESULTS OF INITIAL CAMPAIGN CAN BE FULLY WEIGHED. OUR VIEW IS THAT THE CAMPAIGN WILL PROVIDE A RELIABLE TEST OF INTENTIONS OF TURBAY ADMINISTRATION, AND THAT IF CAMPAIGN IS SUCCESSFUL WOULD CONSTITUTE BASIS FOR FURTHER USG-GOC COLLABORATION IN NARCOTICS INTERDICTION EFFORTS.
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